

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Pursuant to telephone interviews with Examiner Nashed on February 6 , 8 and 23, 2006, Applicants request entry of the amendment to the specification and claims as described herein.

Claims 1-4, 10, 13-16, 18, 20, 21 and 22 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claim 23 has been added.

Paragraphs [0008] and [0107] have been amended to include reference to the SEQ ID NO's. of the cDNA and polypeptide described therein.

Claims 5-12 are now directed to a polynucleotide encoding a soluble β 4 acetylgalactosaminyl transferase and a process for synthesizing said transferase.

The amendment to claim 12 is supported in ¶[0157] of the specification.

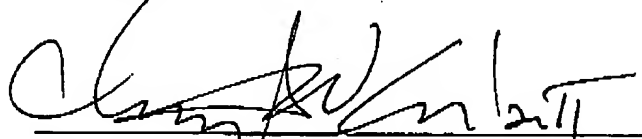
Claim 17 describes using the host cell comprising the polynucleotide having SEQ ID NO:2 to synthesize a protein or peptide glycosylated with a GalNAc β 1, 4GlcNAc structure. New claim 23 is directed to glycosylating a protein or peptide using the β 4 acetylgalactosaminyl transferase having SEQ ID NO:1.

Entry of the amendment is hereby requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are now in a condition for allowance and requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



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